

July 27, 2009

Division of Global Migration and Quarantine
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Attn: Part 34 NPRM Comments
1600 Clifton Road, NE., MS E-03
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Re: Docket No. CDC-2008-0001

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in response to NPRM regarding the HIV screening requirements in the medical examination of applicants for U.S. immigration.

I am totally opposed to this proposed rule. Unknown HIV status of immigrants does dramatically pose a risk to the public's health because it adds to the overall HIV problem in the US, increasing the risk of spreading the disease, as well as increasing the number of cases in the US. Therefore, we do need to continue with required HIV testing of immigrants for several reasons:

1. The patient education that goes along with the testing of HIV will benefit the US by educating immigrants in high risk behaviors that may lead to an HIV infection and preventing the spread of HIV.
2. A positive HIV patient found during a routine immigration physical can lead to early treatment of the disease.
3. A positive HIV result found during required testing during an immigration physical gives the physician opportunity to counsel and educate the patient on preventing the spread of the disease.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Board Certified Family Practice
Civil Surgeon